

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

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FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0023

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE QUITO 1049

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EC

SUBJECT: ENERGY: PROPOSED REPLY TO PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LETTER TO
PRESIDENT NIXON

REF: A) QUITO 0850 B) STATE 4156 C) QUITO 1034

1. JUDGING FROM PUBLIC ACTIONS AND REACTIONS OF SOME OPEC MEMBER COUNTRIES TO WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE, ALL OF THEM DO NOT VIEW U.S. SCENARIO OF CONSULTATIONS AND DIALOGUE AS POSITIVELY AS PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA DID IN HIS LETTER OF FEBRUARY 1 TO PRESIDENT NIXON (QUITO 0850). I RECOMMEND THAT WE TRY TO REINFORCE THE FAVORABLE ECUADOREAN DISPOSITION BY PRESIDENTIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REODRIGUEZ LETTER. IN ADDITION, GIVEN THE GOE'S FORTHCOMING STATEMENT IN REFTTEL C REGARDING THE LIFTING OF FMS, NOW WOULD BE AN OPPORTUNE TIME TO ACKNOWLEDGE IN A GENERAL WAY AT THE HIGHEST U.S. LEVEL THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE IN MOVING TOWARD CLOSER RELATIONS.

2. SPECIFICALLY, I PROPOSE PRESIDENT NIXON SEND A LETTER TO PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:
DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

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I WAS PLEASED TO RECEIVE YOUR LETTER OF FEBRUARY 1 IN

WHICH YOU INFORMED ME THAT ECUADOR IS CONCERNED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRESENT ENERGY CRISIS AND RECOGNIZES THE NEED TO SPONSOR A CLOSER APPROACH BETWEEN THE PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS OF PETROLEUM WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING A JUST BALANCE OF INTERESTS THROUGH REASONABLE UNDERSTANDINGS.

I WELCOME YOUR CONSTRUCTIVE VIEW OF THE PROBLEM THAT IS BEFORE US AND I AGREE THAT A FAVORABLE CLIMATE IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE JUST SOLUTIONS. A MAJOR TASK OF THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE WAS TO BEGIN CREATING A FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION THAT WILL FULFILL BOTH THE HOPES OF THE PRODUCING NATIONS AND THE NEEDS OF THE CONSUMING NATIONS. IF PRODUCING AND CONSUMING NATIONS MOVE RAPIDLY AND COOPERATIVELY TOWARD COLLECTIVE ACTION, ALL WILL BENEFIT.

IT IS A SOURCE OF REAL SATISFACTION TO ME THAT SOME OF THE OBSTACLES TO CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN RECENTLY REMOVED. I HOPE THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH ARE TO BEGIN BEFORE LONG IN QUITO WILL LEAD TO A FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF OUR RELATIONS.

SINCERELY YOURS,

RICHARD NIXON

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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